THE PEOPLE'S STANDARD HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES. By Edward S, Ellis, M. A. Fully Illustrated. The Woolfall Company. Parts 1-4.

OF TENNESSEE. By Joshua W. Caldwell. Pp. xiv, 183. Cincinnati: The Robert Clarke

THE TRENT AFFAIR. Including a Review of English and American Relations at the Beginning of the Civil War. By Thomas L. Harris, A. M. With an Introduction by James A. Woodburn, Ph. D., Professor of American History in the Indiana University. Pp. 288. Indianapolis and Kansas City: The Bowen-Merrill Company.

BOUTHERN SIDELIGHTS. A Picture of Social and Economic Life in the South a Generation Before the War. By Edward Ingle, A. B. Pp. 373. Thomas Y. Crowell & Co.

WITH THE FATHERS. Studies in the History of the United States. By John Bach McMaster, Professor of American History in the University of Pennsylvania. Pp. 1x, 224. D. Appleton

SOUTHERN QUAKERS AND SLAVERY. A Study in Institutional History. By Stephen B Weeks, Ph. D., University of North Carolina and Johns Hopkins University (Johns Hopkins University Studies, Extra Volume xv). Pp. xiv, 409. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press.

MARY DYER OF RHODE ISLAND. The Quaker Martyr that was Hanged on Boston Common. June 1, 1669. By Horatio Rogers, Associate Jus-tice of the Supreme Court of Rhode Island. Pp. vi, 115. Providence: Preston & Rounds.

CITIZENSHIP AND SUFFRAGE IN MARY-LAND. By Bernard C. Steiner, LL. B., Univer-sity of Maryland. Pp. 95. Baltimore: Cush-ing & Co.

Tae eagerness in historical writing and reading that has shown itself in the last few years is beginning to assume the proportions of a genuine renaissance. Talk as we may about the popular taste, it is certain that the number of pe whose memory and whose desire for knowledge of the past are subject to the twenty-four hour limit is not increasing proportionately. Those who have discovered that things happened a hundred years ago, or fifty centuries ago, that are better to read about than the murder which happened last night, are really beginning to crowd their neighbors a little. As an illustration of the fact that historical reading is not to be left to mere scholars and dilettanti, comes Mr. Ellis's elaborate work with its thousand pictures, many of them in colors, and letterress that is a delight to the eye. The work will take its place between the innumerable studies of specialists, and the books prepared for people who care mainly for a good genera knowledge of American history in all its varied phases. It will hardly be looked to for a decision on those minute points where endless controversy rages as to the exact relation of facts but it will give its readers a taste for the theme puted cases for themselves. It will keep to the dicturesque rather than to the recondite side of the theme. The illustrations from the hands of a group of brilliant artists, if one may judge from the specimens already in hand, will form a history by themselves hardly needing a printed

The State of Tennessee furnishes an admirable example for the study of constitution making. It shows how unity may be evolved from the growing together of communities, each with a political system of its own. If the earliest plans had been carried out, the region within the boundaries of the present State would have pre sented a variegated appearance on the map of the Union. There would have been many States where there is now but one. There seems to be some difference of opinion as to the origin of the principles of government under which these incipient States were organized. Some writers contend that political and social institution were derived almost exclusively from England, while others insist that much of what is best in American institutions was derived from the Dutch, either directly or through the temporary residence of Pilgrims and Puritan exiles in Holfar as it affects the institutions of his State The territory of Tennessee belonged to North Carolina, and, like North Carolina, it was settled largely by people who went from Virginia, and its political organizations followed Virginiar precedents. Huguenots, Scottish Highlanders, Germans and a large contingent of Scotch-Irish constituted the first population. The first organized community was named Watauga. Although the settlers were few, they found themquired protection, they provided for themselves, setting to the still obedient colonies on the At lantic seaboard the example of an independent republic. In this republic, and in the State that grew out of it, the equality of the citizens was the most salient fact. Mr. Caldwell emphasizes the point that no Virginia family ever held such power in Tennessee as was long held by the Preston-Breckinridge group in Kentucky. De mocracy was so ingrained in the early settlers that it was not to be overcome even by the pligarchic influence of slavery. The significant fact is that they were men of American birth, with no such direct debt to English ideas as was shown in the written constitution of ancient Connecticut. They had probably never heard of John Lilburn and the Levellers of Crom-

wellian times in England. The Watauga Association lasted for six years, and was succeeded by the somewhat larger State known as the Cumberland Association The latter was absorbed by the State of Frank land, a name afterward changed to Franklin. This organization gradually increased in numbers, and made for itself a mark in history by the advanced ideas it embodied of a social, islative act for the encouragement of learning was the charter of Martin Academy in 1785 by the Franklin Legislature. Amid the financial discussions of the present day the variety of what was called money in those days is suggestive. Tow linen was legal tender at 1s. 9d. per yard, and linsey at 3s., clean beaver skins 6s. each, raccoon and fox skins 1s. 3d., bacon and tallow 6d. a pound, rye whiskey 2s. 6d. a gallon, peach and apple brandy 3s., maple sugar and beeswax 1s. a pound. It is said that the Governor of the State was paid in mink skins. These items were an endless source of amusement to the people on the Atlantic coast. But Tennesseans knew Colonial history, and they reminded Virginians that wives once sold in the tidewater counties for 150 pounds of tobacco; that North Carolinians as late as 1722 paid their debts in hides, tallow and furs; that in Massachusetts corn was at one time legal tender, that later musket balls were current at a farthing each, and that in 1680 a New-England town paid its taxes in milkpails. These were all recognized as legal concessions to the rude neces sities of the times, like the very constitution of the State of Franklin, which disappeared as soon as North Carolina gave up the region to the United States, and the population increased. In 1796, under the direction of William Blount, a constitution for Tennessee was adopted, which re mained in force till 1834, when another was established, not merely by a convention of delegates, but by the vote of all the people. It was not until the social and political changes produced by the war were felt that a third constitution was deemed necessary. The author, who is no friend to an unalterable organic law, argues, in closing his book, that a new constitution is again demanded by the changes that the State

has undergone since 1870. rectly, an inquiry into the history of the Right of Search, long asserted by Great Britain, and now lamented by Spanish statesmen as a usage that would be very convenient off the coast of Cuba. The result of the War of 1812 was to relieve American vessels from ignominious annoyance and American sailors from the danger of impressment. An attempt on the part of Engand to renew the ancient practice in 1858 on the coast of Cuba roused such indignation that American war-vessels were instructed to resist

a second attempt at all hazards Since that tir the alleged right has fallen into complete disuse, and the incident of the Trent sufficed to revolutionize the attitude of England on the subject. Of the bullying disposition shown by the political classes in England toward the United States at the opening of the War of Secession, and of the unteachable ignorance of American affairs displayed by Lord Russell, and even by Mr. Gladstone, it is happily no longer necessary to speak. However, as the bitterness of some American utterances respecting the Venezuelan controversy has attracted attention in England, it is well to remember that the offence is not without a precedent. Mr. Harris has taken pains to collate the unguarded expressions of Englishmen in the time of the American Civil War, as well as the facts showing how much practical sympathy, for the sake of English commerce, was extended to the people in rebellion. England wanted cotton and trade, and the new ideas about the rights of nations emphasized by the Franco-Prussiaa War were not then much con sidered. But, after all, Great Britain and other European Powers were too slow for the Confederate States, and Jefferson Davis and his Congress decided to commission men as "ambassadors" to obtain recognition. James M. Mason, of Virginia, and John Slidell, of Louisiana, were se lected. For obvious reasons these gentlemen went by way of Havana. From that city the steamer Trent was to carry them to the Danish island of St. Thomas, where they would be picked up by an English vessel and carried to Southampton. But Captain Wilkes, of the United States steamer San Jacinto, decided, after looking over such authorities in international law as he had, that they could be arrested as "live dis patches." The story of the capture, and of the excitement that ensued both in the United States and in England, is graphically told by Mr. Harris. From the first President Lincoln held that

Captain Wilkes had violated the American doctrine for which the War of 1812 had been fought. The act of Captain Wilkes was his own. Hence, when the excitement subsided and the facts could be reviewed with a degree of calmness, an understanding was reached and the captured Commissioners were allowed to go on board of a British ship. But their prestige was gone. The to forget. They remember the hot haste of Great Britain to rush into war, the vast scale of her preparations, the masses of troops which she way when the dispute was settled, and it was midwinter. Mr. Seward caused a ripple of international laughter by a telegraphic message to the British Consul at Portland, Me., announcing that British troops would be allowed to land at that city and would be carried by rail to their destination, so as to save them the ley hardships of the St. Lawrence. While Mr. Plimsoll is upo his benevolent task of expurgating American history he might try his hand on some of Lord John Russell's diplomacy. It is hard for Americans to forget everything.

necessary in presenting his subject to go back to Colonial times for the purpose of tracing the the peculiar characteristics which from genera tion to generation grew into the framework of the social, intellectual and political condition of the people, so as to present the "Traits of the Population" as given in his opening chapter The parallels and contrasts between South and North, as drawn by the author, are suggestive The labor systems of the two sections respectively, in their influence upon the people, are faithfully presented, and the consequences are put in a strong light by quotations from writers of the times reviewed. H. H. Trescott, of South Carolina, for example, contended that States in a slave-holding community could not afford to adopt a policy based upon the principle of frelabor. There were protests like that of R. I. Manning, also of South Carolina, who believes that the principle of majority rule was safest; but on the whole the drift of Southern opinion was oligarchic-that is, Southern publicists held that a limited number of people in every generation had political capacity, and that it was best to let those who had the will have the way. Whether rich or poor, says Mr. Ingle Southerners had certain well-defined characteristics. No matter what their party may have been, they were Democrats when it was a question of being governed by others; but some in-

The transition to cotton as the ruler of the Southern country furnishes a chapter of interesting statistics, and a comparison of the systems of North and South for material development and for the accumulation of wealth. The North in its agriculture cultivated all crops that were of value for family use or for market, entered rapidly upon the establishment of manufactories, and also engaged largely in commerce. Cotton, sugar and tobacco were the Southern trinity, of like substance, but of unequal power Cotton was king. Hence the South was dependent upon the North and West for bread and meat. Thus the South wore out her plantations without ever feeding herself. New land was a continual necessity, and a Southern journal humorously described the circle of investment as "making more cotton to buy more negroes, to make more cotton to buy more negroes." Cotton as king became a tyrant, and the South found that her partiality to it was a drawback to general prosperity in agriculture But its political value to the few who aspired to an exclusive rule was unmistakable. In spite of this minority the wish for manufactures grew. voollen factories, the iron works of Alabama, the blast furnaces near Nashville, the tobacco factories of Richmond, the shipbuilding and carshops of Wilmington, Del., and Baltimore, Md., was a surprise to the people both North and South. The manufacturing interests of the Southern country in 1860 gave promise of an industrial future, in which the deeply rooted prejudices of the conservative or cotton-planting class would be overcome, and the South would find great increase of wealth in the equal development of her vast resources.

But 1861 was at hand. The rivalry between the South and the North in commerce and trade the steadily increasing ascendency of the North in the struggle for wealth and power, the consequent depression of the Southerners as they saw their section falling behind the race the quarrels over tariff, complaints Government favoritism shown to the North, and the various schemes to win advanin the game-all furnish curious material for study. Instead of a spirit of comity and mutual regard for the welfare of all, there grew up as the years rolled on a spirit of rivalry, of sectional jealousy that boded ill for the future. This spirit was fostered by the educational system of the South, which was abundantly supplied with colleges, but deficient in elementary schools. Illiteracy was a marked characteristic of the masses according to the ensus, while the families of the planters enloyed every advantage. Thus indirectly slavery became the cause of trouble. The slaveholder absorbed political power, the privileges of education, the resources of the country. It was kept poor relatively to make him rich absolute-The efforts on the one hand to extend slavery and to perpetuate it, and on the other to limit the spread of the institution, and finally to remove it entirely, are matters of history fresh in memory. The election of Lincoln in a fair contest, in which both South and North participated, was the signal for South Carolina to put in practice the theory that the minority is not bound to submit to the majority. Thus the crisis was reached, and the peculiar institu-

tion was removed. But in the language of Mr.

régime."

Ingle: "The way was opened for the South to assume an economic and industrial position which she never could have taken under the old

tion of essays, some of which had already seen the light in different periodicals. The first paper is a history of the Monroe Doctrine, and its mos interesting feature is an appendix made up of extracts from English newspapers that in 1823 cordially approved the declarations of President Monroe. Of course, it always makes a difference whose ox is gored. The proper medicine for the Holy Alliance in Canning's time is not equally welcome to the England of Lord Salisbury's time. For example, England is not as ready to sell Canada now as were some of her editorial writers about three-quarters of a century ago and she has not even made an offer of Guiana. is a mountain there that surpasses any other natural curiosity in the two worlds, and a waterfall to which Niagara is not a circumstance for height. In the rainy seasvolume of water pours over a cliff 700 feet high. There would be more money in these two freaks of nature, properly managed by persons whon the English occasionally describe as Yankees than in all the Venezuelan gold mines. But England was well enough pleased with the Monroe Doctrine when it was first enunciated, and years that have elapsed since December 2 1823, when President Monroe's message was read to Congress, have brought with them accumu lative evidence of the wisdom of "The Fathers" in thus squarely resisting the Holy Alliance at the outset. The gates were thus shut in the face of the kings, and locked; and it is well that each generation of Americans be instructed to keep those gates closed and double-locked. The shows that modern politicians have come honestly by their tricks, and that some of "The Fathers" could "give them points." Another in teresting essay is a study of the career of the Know-Nothings. The papers in the volume are not even in quality, but they will all bear

"Southern Quakers and Slavery" is a sober book, in which the growth and decay of the Society of Friends in the Southern States are reviewed with minuteness. Its defect is that the impression one gets is that while the Friends were opposed to slavery, they were not strenuous they lived, and that their influence was lessened as the Nation approached the crisis in its life Southern Quaker influence proved greater in the population which it sent to the West than at home. Of the miseries which the Quakers enthat subject has been covered in a recent volume by one of their own number.

Another volume in Quaker history is Judge Dyer. The little narrative with its appendices is an admirable bit of antiquarian study. People now may think that they never would have been guilty of the deliberate cruelty of the Massa chusetts authorities, but a frank student of hu man nature would be apt to say that he could tions. Read this little book carefully and see what you would have done if you had been an officer of the law at Boston in the year of grace

one of the most significant points in which is the circumstantial proof that the voting of the negroes was not a race question until it had become a political difficulty. Under the Constitution of 1776 the suffrage was universal. But in 1783 slaves subsequently made free were forbidden to growth of the negro race, that made this provision a necessity. The reality of race prejudice is so often taken for granted in modern discusher every fact which shows the prejudice to have an artificial, not a natural, origin. Mr. Steiner's work is that of a lawyer rather than of a popular writer, and it is all the more safe by way of authority for that reason.

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